



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2

290 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

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Mr. Daniel Saunders
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Natural and Historic Resources
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFF

HP0-2015-059-P20D

Re: Standard Chlorine Chemical Company Superfund Site (SHPO Project # 10-0206)

Dear Mr. Saunders:

This is in reference to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ongoing action, undertaken pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended, for the Standard Chlorine Chemical Company (SCCC) Superfund Site, located in the Town of Kearny, Hudson County, New Jersey. The main contaminants at this 25 acre site are aromatic compounds including naphthalene and dichlorobenzene, as well as dioxin and chromium. These contaminants are a result of manufacturing operations conducted between 1916-1993, including the refining of naphthalene, the manufacture of products from naphthalene, naphthalene derivatives, and dichlorobenzenes, the formulation of drain cleaning products, and the processing of trichlorobenzene.

As the remedial investigation of this site has progressed, a group of potentially responsible parties has implemented interim response actions to prevent the migration of groundwater and surface water contamination to the Hackensack River. These actions include the installation of a slurry wall around the Site perimeter, including a bulkhead between the property and the Hackensack River. In addition, consolidation and interim capping of contaminated soils/sediments from the site, as well as the off-site disposal of containerized asbestos and other contaminated materials from earlier site activity, has also been implemented.

As a result of ongoing cultural resource investigations conducted at this site, it was determined that the project area contained five buildings from the former Thomas A. Edison EMark Battery Company. Consequently, in 2008, your office issued an Opinion of Eligibility that the former Edison Battery Company property, including Buildings 1, 2, 3, 4 and 23, is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Unfortunately, a recent visual review of these buildings found them to be in a significant state of

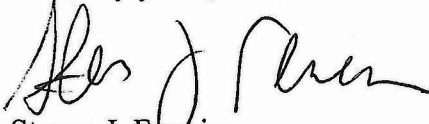
disrepair, and structurally unsafe to enter. It is now anticipated that remediation of this site will result in the demolition of all five of these buildings. Accordingly, as part of our continuing consultation pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, EPA is notifying your office that we have determined that remediation of this property will result in an adverse effect to these historic properties. Since these historic buildings were determined to be so significantly compromised that they are not salvageable, avoidance or minimization of adverse effects resulting from their demolition is not considered feasible.

Consequently, EPA and the potentially responsible parties have developed and are currently completing a number of measures, including a Historic American Buildings Survey of the affected buildings, as well as a number of interpretive documents, including a booklet describing the history of the EMark Battery Company at the site, a Teacher's Guide and Lesson Plans, and an interpretative exhibit, to mitigate the adverse effect resulting from their demolition. We have forwarded drafts of these documents to your staff for their review, and are currently revising the aforementioned materials to reflect their comments.

In addition, EPA is currently drafting, in consultation with your staff, a memorandum of agreement (MOA) for this project, outlining the measures that have been proposed to mitigate the unavoidable adverse effects to these National Register-eligible properties. We anticipate providing a draft of the MOA to your office in the near future for your review and comment.


We greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact me at (212) 637-3759.

Sincerely yours,



Steven J. Ferreira
Regional Historic Preservation Officer
Environmental Review Section

cc: M. Craren, NJDEP

CONCUR	
	9/4/15
DATE	
DEPUTY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER	
DANIEL D. SAUNDERS	

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